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Letter dated 27 August 2007 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 1772 (2007), which requested me to intensify my efforts to strengthen the National Reconciliation Congress and the wider political process by working together with the African Union, the League of Arab States, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the European Union and the International Contact Group on Somalia. In the same resolution, the Security Council requested me to provide it with an assessment of further measures that may be required to strengthen the ability of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS) to fulfil its enhanced role in Somalia.

In order to enhance the ability of UNPOS to fulfil its enhanced mandate, I intend to upgrade the post of Head of that Office to the level of Under-Secretary-General. I also intend to appoint Mr. Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, who is currently my Special Representative for West Africa, as Special Representative for Somalia. Pursuant to paragraph 17 of resolution 1772 (2007), I will propose in my next report to the Security Council further measures for strengthening the capacity of UNPOS.

Furthermore, Assistant Secretary-General François Lonseny Fall, my current Special Representative for Somalia, will be reassigned as Head of the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA). General Lamine Cissé, Special Representative of the Secretary-General, whose contract expires on 31 December 2007, will be temporarily reassigned as Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for West Africa at his current level.

I should like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to Mr. Abdallah, Mr. Fall and Mr. Cissé for their remarkable contributions to the United Nations' peace efforts in West Africa, Somalia and the Central African Republic, respectively.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ban** Ki-moon

07-49556 (E) 060907 060907